

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAN SA 00553 302319Z

64

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-11 AID-05 /067 W

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O 302303Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 195

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 0553

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, ES, HO, OAS

SUBJECT: HONDURAS/EL SALVADOR RELATIONS

REF: SAN SALVADOR 0471

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH FONMIN BORGONOVO ON JAN 30, HE TOLD ME THAT HE WAS VERY FAVORABLY IMPRESSED BY HIS VISIT TO TEGUCIGALPA. HE BELIEVED THAT FONMIN PERDOMO WAS TAKING A VERY PRAGMATIC AND POSITIVE APPROACH TO SETTLEMENT OF THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND ACHIEVING NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS. HE VOICED OPTIMISM THAT HE CAN MAKE PROGRESS IN HIS NEGOTIATIONS WITH PERDOMO. HE THOUGHT THAT THE PRESS CONFERENCE IN TEGUCIGALPA WAS AN ORDEAL (HE FACED SOME HALF-A-HUNDRED MEDIA REPORTERS WHO TOSSED LOADED QUESTIONS LEFT AND RIGHT); BUT VERY USEFUL IN THAT IT GAVE HIM AND PERDOMO A CHANCE TO GET THE IMPORTANT MESSAGE ACROSS TO THE REPORTERS THAT IT IS UP TO THE MEDIA TO CREATE THE ATMOSPHERE THAT WOULD BE CONDUCIVE TO A SETTLEMENT BY RESPONSIBLE AND POSITIVE TREATMENT OF THE NEWS. HE WAS SATISFIED FOR THE MOST PART WITH THE REPORTING OF THE INTERVIEWS WITH HIM.

2. HE CONFIDED THAT HE WILL BE MEETING "SECRETEL Y" THIS
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WEEKEND IN MIAMI WITH PERDOMO TO KICK OFF THE NEGOTIATIONS

(PLEASE PROTECT THIS CONFIDENCE). HE CONFIRMED THAT THERE HAVE BEEN FEELERS FOR A MEETING ON FEBRUARY 7 OF PRESIDENTS MOLINA AND MELGAR ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR DEFENSE AND FOREIGN MINISTERS. THIS MEETING HAS NOT YET BEEN DEFINITELY ARRANGED; AND BORGONO PREFERS THAT IT TAKE PLACE ONLY IF HE AND PERDOMO ARE ABLE TO MAKE CONSIDERABLE HEADWAY AT THEIR SCHEDULED MEETING IN MIAMI.

3. INITIAL REACTION HERE, TO BORGONOVOS TRIP TO TEGUCIGALPA, INCLUDING MEDIA PLAY, HAS BEEN UNIFORMLY FAVORABLE. CAMPBELL

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